New guidelines for processed food items

3462. SHRI EKANATH K. THAKUR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry proposes to make it mandatory for the manufacturers of processed food items to mention the details of the ingredients on the labels including the fat content and the technique used in its manufacture and storage; and

(b) if so, the details of the new rules and when they are likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Central Committee for Food Standards a statutory committee under the Prevention of Food Adulteration (PFA) Act, 1954 recommended the amendment of PFA Rules, 1955 to declare the complete nutritional information of the food product on its label. The information is recommended to be given on the label shall be in the following format:—

"The complete nutritional information per 100 gm of the product shall be given on the label containing the following:—

(i) Information on energy value should be expressed in kJ and Kcal per 100 gm or per 100 ml alongwith percentage of nutrient of Recommended Dietary Allowance (RDA) of Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR).

(ii) Information on the amounts of protein, carbohydrate and fat in the food should be expressed in gm per 100 gm or per 100 ml alongwith percentage RDA of nutrient recommended by ICMR.

(iii) The amount and/or type of fatty saturated fatty acids, polyunsaturated fatty acids and trans fatty acids.

(iv) Numerical information on vitamins and minerals should be expressed in metric units and/or as a percentage of the Nutrient Reference Value of ICMR per 100 gm or per 100 ml alongwith percentage of nutrient of RDA of ICMR."

The above proposal has been published in Part II, Section 3, Sub-section (i) of the Gazette of India (Extraordinary) *vide* GSR No. 694 (E) dated

28.11.2005 for inviting objections and suggestions from the public. While finalizing the draft rules, the objections and suggestions received on the draft rules would be taken into consideration after a period of sixty days from the date on which the copies of the Official Gazette in which this notification is published are made available to public.

Infectious injectible medical equipments

†3463. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that due to repeated use of injectible medical equipments in almost all the Government and private hospitals/clinics in the country, the increasing incidents of serious infections like AIDS is becoming alarming day by day;

(b) if so, whether this fact has come to light after conducting a survey of several hospitals in Delhi and Mumbai in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether Government would consider to check this practice by assisting the States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) No, Sir. The Government of India, Ministry of Environment and Forests has notified the Bio-Medical Waste (Management and Handling) Rules, in July 1998 to ensure safe handling and disposal of bio-medical wastes. In Central Government Hospital in Delhi, the disposable injectible sundries (Syringes, needles, cannulas, transfusion sets, tubes etc.) are disposed off as per the guidelines contained in the above Rules.

(b) No such survey report has come to the notice of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.

(c) and (d) Do not arise in view of the above.

AIIMS like institutions in States

3464. SHRI N.R. GOVINDARAJAR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.